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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/538,240	06/07/2005	Hideki Sawada	10921.328USWO	3630

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EXAMINER	
BENNETT, ZAHRA I	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2875	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/05/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/538,240	SAWADA, HIDEKI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Zahra Bennett	2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *07 June 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-11* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-11* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *07 June 2005* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/7/05
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 2 is objected to because of the following informalities: The phrase "a said light incidence" on page 25, line 3.

Claim 6 is objected to because of the following informalities: The phrase "the said light incidence" on page 26, line 10.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fujimoto et al. (US Patent 6,259,082).

With respect to claim 1, Fujimoto teaches an optical conduction unit (Figure 31) comprising an optical conduction body (10'") and a reflector (3A-B'");

wherein the optical conduction body includes a light incidence surface (30"') for receiving light from a light source (2), a light outgoing surface (10A"') extending in the prescribed x direction to cause the light that propagated from the light incidence surface inside the optical conduction body to go out to the outside, and a pair of side surfaces (10C-D"') joined to the light outgoing surface and extending in the x direction;

wherein the reflector includes a first member (3A'") and a second member (3B'") for sandwiching (Figure 32) the optical conduction body in the y direction perpendicular to the x direction and for covering the pair of the side surfaces; and

wherein the first member comprises first fitting means (Figure 31: 31'") for mating with a portion (Figure 28: 12") of the optical conduction body in the y direction, second fitting means (Figure 31: 33d'") for mating with another portion (33b'") of the optical conduction body in the x direction, third fitting means (Figure 28: 32") for mating with a portion (Figure 25: 11") of the second member (3B'") in the y direction, and fourth fitting means (Figure 31: 34a'") for mating with another portion (34b'") of the second member in the x direction.

With respect to claim 2, Fujimoto teaches that the optical conduction body (Figure 31: 10'") comprises a main region having the outgoing surface (10A'") and the pair of the side surfaces (10C-D'") and an auxiliary region (10B'") joined in the x direction to the main region; and wherein the auxiliary region (10B'") includes the light incidence surface (30'") and a light reflecting surface (Figure 29C: 14c") for reflecting the light that propagated from the light incidence surface inside the auxiliary region toward the main region (10") and is configured so that the light that propagated from the auxiliary region inside the main region goes out to the outside from the light outgoing surface, while propagating in the x direction (Figure 29C).

With respect to claim 3, Fujimoto teaches that the first member (Figure 31: 3A"') comprises a body section adjacent to the optical conduction body (10"') and extending in the x direction and a first wall section (Figure 20: 3A'a) and a second wall (3A'b) section protruding in the y direction from the body section and facing each other via a gap (Figure 18: 30'); and wherein the first fitting means comprises the first and second wall sections and has the auxiliary region (Figure 20: 10B') inserted between the first and second sections.

With respect to claim 4, Fujimoto teaches that the first wall section (Figure 20: 3A'a) covers the light reflecting surface (Figure 15: 14').

With respect to claim 5, Fujimoto teaches that the main region comprises an end surface (Figure 16: 10E') facing in the x direction and the first member comprises a third wall section (30e') for covering the end surface.

With respect to claim 6, Fujimoto teaches that a first protrusion or orifice (Figure 31: 33b) having a central axis thereof extending in the x direction is provided in the end surface (not shown), and wherein the second fitting means (Figure 31: 33d"') is an orifice or a protrusion provided in the third wall section (10E') so as to mate with the first protrusion or orifice.

With respect to claim 7, Fujimoto teaches that at one end portion of the second member (Figure 28: 32") in the x direction, a second protrusion or orifice (Figure 28: 32") having a central axis thereof extending in the y direction is provided, and at the other end portion of the second member in the x direction, a third protrusion or orifice (Figure 28: 11") having a central axis thereof extending in the x direction is provided; wherein the third means is an orifice or a protrusion provided in the first member so as to mate with the second protrusion or orifice; and wherein the fourth member (Figure 28: 32") is an orifice or protrusion provided in the third wall section of the first member so as to mate with the third protrusion or orifice.

With respect to claim 8, Fujimoto teaches that the third wall section can deform elastically in the x direction (Column 2, lines 19-21).

With respect to claim 9, Fujimoto teaches that the reflector has a tubular portion surrounding all for sides (Figure 6: 3A, 3B, 70, 71) of the region facing the light incidence surface (10A).

With respect to claim 10, Fujimoto teaches that the first and second members (Figure 31: 3A-B"') are made from a white resin (Column 14, lines 33-38).

With respect to claim 11, Fujimoto teaches an image reading device comprising a light source (Figure 31: 2), an optical conduction unit (Figure 31) for illuminating light

emitted from the light source toward a reading line of a document, a plurality of sensor IC chips (Figures 32 and 33: 52) for receiving the light reflected from the reading line and outputting an image signal (Ad), and a case (4) accommodating the light source, the optical conduction unit, and the plurality of sensor IC chips;

wherein the optical conduction body includes a light incidence surface (30"') for receiving light from a light source (2), a light outgoing surface (10A"') extending in the prescribed x direction to cause the light that propagated from the light incidence surface inside the optical conduction body to go out to the outside, and a pair of side surfaces (10C-D"') joined to the light outgoing surface and extending in the x direction;

wherein the reflector includes a first member (3A"') and a second member (3B"') for sandwiching (Figure 32) the optical conduction body in the y direction perpendicular to the x direction and for covering the pair of the side surfaces; and

wherein the first member comprises first fitting means (Figure 31: 31"') for mating with a portion (Figure 28: 12") of the optical conduction body in the y direction, second fitting means (Figure 31: 33d"') for mating with another portion (33b"') of the optical conduction body in the x direction, third fitting means (Figure 28: 32") for mating with a portion (Figure 25: 11") of the second member (3B"') in the y direction, and fourth fitting means (Figure 31: 34a"') for mating with another portion (34b"') of the second member in the x direction.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zahra Bennett whose telephone number is 571-272-2267. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 571-272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ZB

Sandra O'Shea
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Technology Center 2800